

## One-Month Voucher Program

### Women, Infants and Children and Immunization Collaboration

The Utah Immunization Program has been developing methods to increase the up-to-date (UTD) immunization rates throughout the state. One collaborative approach was piloted in the Tooele County Health Department, where the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program and the Utah Immunization Program implemented the WIC One-Month Voucher Program (OMV) in December 2005 through June 2006.

Under the OMV Program, a WIC participant who lacked an UTD immunization record was issued a food/formula voucher for a one-month time frame rather than the typical three-month period. One-month vouchers were issued until the client presented an UTD immunization record. The client had the option of receiving an immunization at the time of the visit, whereupon they received three months of vouchers the same day. Clients who were not UTD were sent priority messages through the WIC information system. Tooele WIC also extended business hours to accommodate clients that required immunizations. A full-time WIC nurse was hired to help with the additional work load. The Salt Lake Valley Health Department (SLVHD) will implement an OMV program beginning sometime in 2007. Their program is similar to the Tooele program, however a two-month voucher can also be given, if the client receives a vaccination at the time of their visit ,but is still not UTD. Data from the SLVHD program should be available for the Immunization Coverage Report, State of Utah: 2008.

These Utah OMV programs were modeled after successful programs in states and municipalities. Analysis of the Chicago OMV program indicated that UTD vaccination status for 2-year-old children increased from 56% to 89%. Over the 15-month period of analysis the percentage of children needing voucher incentives decreased from 51% to 12%.<sup>i</sup> The New Mexico Region 4 WIC program manager reports that over a 10 year period immunization rates for their clients increased from 35% to 91% following their OMV program.

Final data for the Tooele WIC One-Month Voucher pilot program were collected and processed during the summer of 2006 and presented at the annual Utah State WIC Conference in August the same year. Data were not available to compare pre-OMV program immunization percentages to post program percentages, but basic descriptive data are presented on the following page. The table at the top of the next page displays the number of WIC clients that were UTD or not UTD. The first graph on the next page illustrates the percentage of the population that was either UTD or not UTD. The table also displays the type of action taken (OMV, immunized, other) among those who were not UTD. The table at the bottom of the page illustrates the percentage of each action taken among those not UTD.

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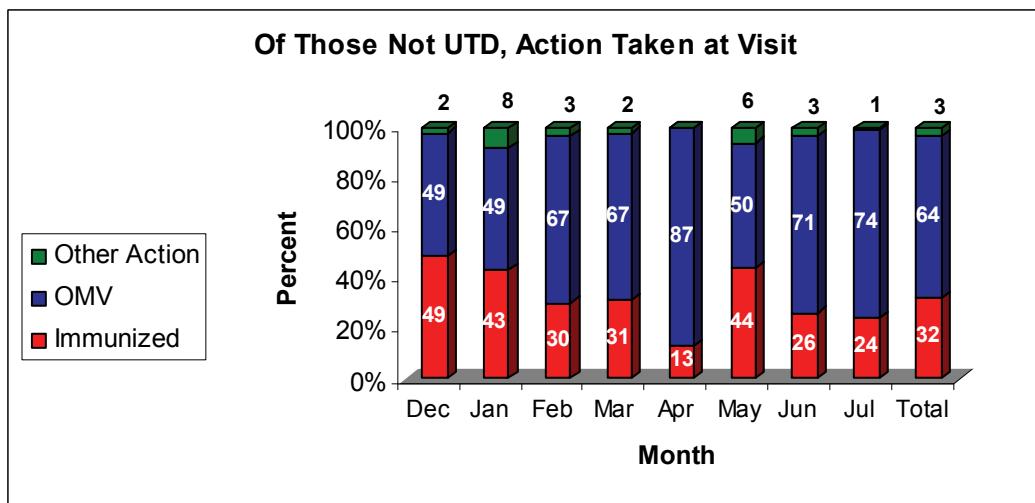
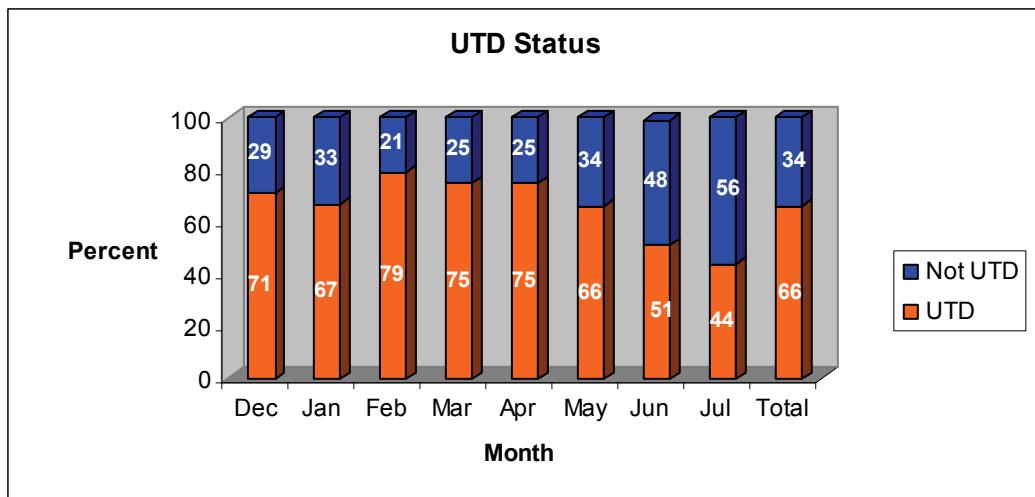
<sup>i</sup> Hoekstra EJ, et al. Impact of a large scale immunization initiative in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). JAMA, 280(13), 1143-7.

# WIC One Month Voucher

2007

## 2006 Tooele Results

Month	Total Clients	UTD	Not UTD	OMV	Immunized	Other Action*
December	119	84	35	17	17	1
<b>January</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>
February	142	112	30	20	9	1
<b>March</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>
April	120	90	30	26	4	0
<b>May</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>
June	158	82	76	54	20	2
<b>July</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>
All Months	1,131	748	383	242	121	13



\*Data missing for 7 participants